

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PER-01 FSI-01 /012 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:JELEADER/CA/FS/NEA:DTHAL/NEA/EX:EPERKIN

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R 150053Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, APER, CE

SUBJECT: REPROGRAMMING POSITIONS IN NEA AREA

REF: A) COLOMBO 377; B) COLOMBO 307

1. WE HAVE REVIEWED YOUR PRESENTATION (COLOMBO 307) AND CONCUR WITH YOUR RATIONALE FOR RETENTION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY POSITION. ACCORDINGLY WE PLAN NO FURTHER ACTION TO ELIMINATE THIS POSITION AT THIS TIME.

2. HOWEVER, WE WOULD LIKE TO ASSIGN DON CAMP AS BRYNN'S REPLACEMENT FOR LABOR POSITION. DON CAMP HAS JUST COMPLETED 20 WEEKS OF SINHALA TRAINING AND IT WOULD RUN COUNTER TO FIRMLY ESTABLISHED PERSONNEL PRACTICE NOT TO UTILIZE HIS TRAINING IN HIS NEXT ASSIGNMENT. FURTHERMORE, LOOKING AHEAD, EMBASSY COLOMBO NEEDS COVERAGE WITH A SINHALA SPEAKER AS OF BRYNN'S DEPARTURE AND CAMP IS THE OBVIOUS CANDIDATE TO FILL THAT NEED. A FINAL ELEMENT IN THE EQUATION IS CAMP'S PERSONAL COMMITMENT. HE IS DEEPLY

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INTERESTED IN THE COLOMBO ASSIGNMENT AND IN FACT WAS

VIRTUALLY EN ROUTE WHEN THE CURRENT COLOMBO PERSONNEL REALIGNMENT AROSE. HE HAS SHIPPED HIS HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS, SOLD HIS CAR AND WAS SCHEDULED FOR DEPARTURE FEBRUARY 10 WHEN WE PUT A HOLD ON HIS TRAVEL.

3. WE APPRECIATE YOUR REASONING ON BRYNN'S EXTENSION OUTLINED COLOMBO 377 AND 2510 OF SEPTEMBER 16, 1974. NEVERTHELESS, WE THINK IT PREFERABLE TO HAVE CAMP PROCEED TO COLOMBO SHORTLY AND TO HAVE BRYNN TRANSFER IN AUGUST ON SCHEDULE. WE HAVE RECEIVED LABOR DEPARTMENT SUPPORT FOR ASSIGNMENT OF CAMP TO THE POL/LAB POSITION IN LIEU OF THE JUNIOR ECON SLOT WHICH IS BEING ABOLISHED. LABOR HAS AGREED TO PROVIDE A CRASH FOUR-WEEK LABOR TRAINING COURSE COMMENCING THIS WEEK. WE PROPOSE SENDING CAMP TO COLOMBO IN MARCH WHEN HE COMPLETES HIS STINT AT LABOR.

4. TO TAKE CARE OF ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS WE PLAN TO HAVE CAMP PROCEED TO COLOMBO USING HIS PRESENT ORDERS ASSIGNING HIM TO JUNIOR ECON POSITION. WE WILL ABOLISH THAT JOB AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR ON JUNE 30 AND THEN CARRY CAMP ON AN OVER-COMPLEMENT BASIS UNTIL ED BRYNN LEAVES IN AUGUST (60 DAYS IS THE MAXIMUM FOR OVER-COMPLEMENT STATUS). IN THE MEANTIME, IF YOU THINK IT FEASIBLE IN VIEW OF THE CHANGED PERSONNEL SITUATION, CAMP COULD UNDERTAKE THE ONE-MONTH STUDY OF SINHALA IN SRI LANKA PROPOSED IN STATE 251099, NOVEMBER 14, 1974.

5. WE HOPE THAT THE ABOVE PROPOSAL IS SATISFACTORY FROM YOUR STANDPOINT. INGERSOLL

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